IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 7-8, 14-15, 19-20, 25-26, 33-34, 38 and 43, amend claims 16, 18 and 41, and add new claims 47-58 as indicated below:

1. (Original) A method of monitoring resource units in a group, comprising:

   (a) providing a group of resource units;

   (b) determining a thickness of one or more of the resource units; and

   (c) indicating when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more of the resource units has been moved from the group and responsive to the determination of thickness in step (b).

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the group of resource units is a stack of sheet articles in a mail insertion system.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising detecting the size of the group of resource units prior to any resource units being moved from the group.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein detecting the size of the group of resource units includes providing a sensor for determining when the size of the group of resource units is less than a second predetermined size.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein determining the thickness further includes providing a device for measuring the thickness of the one or more resource units as the one or more resource units are moved from the group.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the resource units are in a stack, and the resource units are moved from the group by removing resource units from the bottom of the stack.

7-8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) A method of monitoring resource units in a group of resource units, comprising:

(a) detecting size of a group of resource units; and

(b) indicating, based upon the thicknesses of at least one of the resource units, when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more resource units has been moved from the group.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the group of resource units is a group of sheet articles in a mail insertion system.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising detecting the size of the group of resource units prior to any resource units being moved from the group.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein detecting the size of the group of resource units includes providing a sensor for determining when the size of the group of resource units is less than a predetermined size.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein indicating when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size further includes

providing a device for measuring the thickness of the one or more resource units as the one or more resource units are moved from the group.

14-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling removal of sheet articles from a stack, comprising:

(a) detecting a level of a stack of sheet articles;

(b) removing one or more sheet articles from the stack;

(c) determining a thickness of at least one of the sheet articles removed from the stack;

(d) indicating when the stack of sheet articles reaches a predetermined level and responsive to the determination of thickness in step (c) ~~(d)~~; and

(e) selectively stopping removal of sheet articles from the stack.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein detecting the level of a stack of sheet articles from a stack further includes providing a sensor for determining when the level of the stack of sheet articles is less than a predetermined level.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the sheet articles are removed by removing one or more sheet articles ~~resource units~~ from the bottom of the stack.

19-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A system for monitoring resource units in a stack, the system comprising:

(a) a container for containing a group of resource units;

(b) a device for measuring a thickness of one or more of the resource units; and

(c) an indicator for indicating, responsive to the determination of thickness from said device, when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more of the resource units has been moved from the group.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the group of resource units is a group of sheet articles in a mail insertion system.

23. (Original) The system of claim 21 further comprising a measurement detector for detecting the size of the group of resource units prior to any resource units being moved from the group.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the predetermined size is a first predetermined size and wherein the measurement detector includes a sensor for determining whether the size of the group of resource units is less than a second predetermined size.

25-26. (Canceled)

27. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the indicator includes a display for providing a visual display of information to an operator.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27 wherein the display provides an indication to the operator when the group of resource units is less than the predetermined size.

29. (Previously Presented) A system for monitoring resource units in a group of resource units, comprising:

(a) a detector for detecting size of a group of resource units; and

(b) a controller for indicating calculating, based upon the thickness of at least one of the resource units, when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more resource units has been moved from the group.

30. (Original) The system of claim 29 wherein the group of resource units is a group of sheet articles in a mail insertion system.

31. (Original) The system of claim 29 wherein the measurement detector detects the size of resource units prior to any resource units being moved from the group.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29 wherein the predetermined size is a first predetermined size and wherein the measurement detector includes a sensor for determining whether the size of the group of resource units is less than a second predetermined size.

33-34. (Canceled)

35. (Original) The system of claim 29 further including a display for providing a visual display of information to an operator.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 35 wherein the display provides an indication to the operator when the group of resource units is less than the predetermined size.

37. (Original) A system for controlling removal of sheet articles from a stack, comprising:

(a) a detector for detecting a level of a stack of sheet articles;

(b) a mechanical device for removing one or more sheet articles from the stack;

(c) a device for determining a thickness of at least one of the sheet articles removed from the stack; and

(d) an indicator for indicating, responsive to the determination of thickness by the device, when the stack of sheet articles reaches a predetermined level and selectively stopping removal of sheet articles from the stack.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Original) The system of claim 37 further including a display for providing a visual display of information to an operator.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 39 wherein the display provides an indication to the operator when the stack of sheet articles is less than the predetermined level.

41. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for monitoring resource units in a stack, the computer program product comprising computer-executable instructions embodied in a computer-readable medium for performing steps comprising:

(a) detecting a size of resource units in a group of resource units; and

(b) indicating, based upon the thicknesses of at least one of the resource units, when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more resource units has been moved from the group.

42. (Original) The computer program product of claim 41 further comprising detecting the size of the group of resource units prior to any resource units being moved from the group.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Previously Presented) A system for monitoring resource units from a group, comprising:

(a) a detector for detecting a level of a stack of resource units;

(b) a mechanical device for removing one or more resource units from the group;

(c) a device for determining a thickness of at least one of the resource units removed from the group; and

(d) an indicator operable to indicate, responsive to the detector, when the group of resource units is below a first predetermined level, and for

indicating, responsive to the determination of thickness by the device, when the group of resource units is below a second predetermined level.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 44 wherein the group of resource units is a stack of sheet articles in a mail insertion system.

46. (Previously Presented) A system for monitoring sheet articles from a stack, comprising:

(a) a detector for detecting a level of a stack of sheet articles;

(b) a mechanical device for removing one or more sheet articles from the bottom of the stack;

(c) a device for determining a thickness of at least one of the sheet articles removed from the bottom of the stack; and

(d) an indicator operable to indicate, responsive to the detector, when the stack of sheet articles is below a first predetermined level, and operable to indicate, responsive to the detector and the device, then the stack of sheet articles is below a second predetermined level, wherein the second predetermined level is lower than the first predetermined level.

47. (New) A method of monitoring resource units in a group, comprising:

(a) providing a group of resource units;

(b) determining a thickness of one or more of the resource units;

(c) indicating when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more of the resource units has been moved from the group and responsive to the determination of thickness in step (b); and

(d) wherein the predetermined size of step (c) is a first predetermined size, and wherein indicating when the group of resource units reaches the first predetermined size includes:

(i) detecting when the size of the group of resource units is less than a second predetermined size;

(ii) when the size of the group of resource units is less than the second predetermined size, determining the number of resource units moved from the group; and

(iii) when the number of resource units moved from the group is greater than a predetermined number, indicating the group is less than the first predetermined size.

48. (New) A method of monitoring resource units in a group, comprising:

(a) providing a group of resource units;

(b) determining a thickness of one or more of the resource units;

(c) indicating when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more of the resource units has been moved from the group and responsive to the determination of thickness in step (b); and

(d) disabling the moving of resource units when the group of resource units is less than the predetermined size.

49. (New) A method of monitoring resource units in a group of resource units, comprising:

(a) detecting the size of a group of resource units;

(b) indicating, based upon the thicknesses of at least one of the resource units, when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more resource units has been moved from the group; and

(c) wherein indicating when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size in step (b) further includes:

(i) determining whether the number of resource units moved from the group is less than a predetermined number; and

(ii) when the number of resource units moved is equal to the predetermined number, indicating that the size of the group of resource units is less than the predetermined size.

50. (New) A method of monitoring resource units in a group of resource units, comprising:

(a) detecting the size of a group of resource units;

(b) indicating, based upon the thicknesses of at least one of the resource units, when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more resource units has been moved from the group; and

(c) disabling the moving of resource units when the group of resource units is less than the predetermined size.

51. (New) A method for controlling removal of sheet articles from a stack, comprising:

(a) detecting a level of a stack of sheet articles;

(b) removing one or more sheet articles from the stack;

(c) determining a thickness of at least one of the sheet articles removed from the stack;

(d) indicating when the stack of sheet articles reaches a predetermined level and responsive to the determination of thickness in step (c);

(e) selectively stopping removal of sheet articles from the stack; and

(f) wherein the predetermined level of step (d) is a first predetermined level and wherein indicating when the stack of sheet articles reaches the first predetermined level includes:

(i) detecting when the level of the stack of sheet articles is less than a second predetermined level;

(ii) when the level of the stack of sheet articles is less than the second predetermined level, determining the number of sheet articles removed from the stack; and

(iii) when the number of sheet articles removed from the stack is greater than a predetermined number, indicating the stack is less than the first predetermined level.

52. (New) A method for controlling removal of sheet articles from a stack, comprising:

(a) detecting a level of a stack of sheet articles;

(b) removing one or more sheet articles from the stack;

(c) determining a thickness of at least one of the sheet articles removed from the stack;

(d) indicating when the stack of sheet articles reaches a predetermined level and responsive to the determination of thickness in step (c); and

(e) selectively stopping removal of sheet articles from the stack by disabling the moving of sheet articles when the stack of sheet articles is less than the predetermined level.

53. (New) A system for monitoring resource units in a stack, the system comprising:

(a) a container for containing a group of resource units;

(b) a device for measuring a thickness of one or more of the resource units;

(c) an indicator for indicating, responsive to the determination of thickness from said device, when the group of resource units reaches a

predetermined size after one or more of the resource units has been moved from the group; and

(d) a counter for determining the number of resource units removed from the container.

54. (New) A system for monitoring resource units in a stack, the system comprising:

(a) a container for containing a group of resource units;

(b) a device for measuring a thickness of one or more of the resource units;

(c) an indicator for indicating, responsive to the determination of thickness from said device, when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more of the resource units has been removed from the group;

(d) a counter for determining the number of resource units removed from the group;

(e) a mechanical device for removing resource units from the group; and

(f) a controller for indicating to the counter the removal of one or more resource units.

55. (New) A system for monitoring resource units in a stack, the system comprising:

(a) a container for containing a group of resource units;

(b) a device for measuring a thickness of one or more of the resource units;

(c) an indicator for indicating, responsive to the determination of thickness from said device, when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more of the resource units has been moved from the group; and

(d) a counter for determining the number of resource units moved from the group.

56. (New) A system for monitoring resource units in a stack, the system comprising:

(a) a container for containing a group of resource units;

(b) a device for measuring a thickness of one or more of the resource units;

(c) an indicator for indicating, responsive to the determination of thickness from said device, when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more of the resource units has been removed from the group;

(d) a counter for determining the number of resource units removed from the group;

(e) a mechanical device for removing resource units from the group; and

(f) a means for indicating the removal of one or more resource units.

57. (New) A system for controlling removal of sheet articles from a stack, comprising:

(a) a detector for detecting a level of a stack of sheet articles;

(b) a mechanical device for removing one or more sheet articles from the stack;

(c) a device for determining a thickness of at least one of the sheet articles removed from the stack;

(d) an indicator for indicating, responsive to the determination of thickness by the device, when the stack of sheet articles reaches a predetermined level and selectively stopping removal of sheet articles from the stack; and

(e) a counter for determining the number of sheet articles removed from the stack of sheet articles.

58. (New) A computer program product for monitoring resource units in a stack, the computer program product comprising computer-executable instructions embodied in a computer-readable medium for performing steps comprising:

(a) detecting a size of resource units in a group of resource units;

(b) indicating, based upon the thicknesses of at least one of the resource units, when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size after one or more resource units has been moved from the group; and

(c) wherein indicating when the group of resource units reaches a predetermined size in step (b) further includes:

(i) determining whether the number of resource units moved from the group is less than a predetermined number; and

(ii) indicating that the size of the group of resource units is less than the predetermined size when the number of resource units moved is greater than the predetermined number.